

I CLAIM:

1           1. A SPAM control method for implementation by a SPAM  
2           elimination administrator inserted into the signal path between  
3           an E-mail sender and its intended message recipient comprising  
4           the steps of:

5                 a) Setting a first numeric filtering threshold below  
6           which substantially all received E-mail messages are immediately  
7           sent to the intended message recipient and above which  
8           substantially all received E-mail messages are temporarily held  
9           in quarantine;

10                b) Setting a second numeric filtering threshold below  
11           which temporarily quarantined E-mail messages are flagged for  
12           intended message recipient notification;

13                c) Setting a time schedule for notifying the intended  
14           message recipient of temporarily quarantined E-mail messages;

15                d) Creating a summary of said temporarily quarantined  
16           E-mail messages by at least one of sender identification and  
17           subject matter content informations;

18                e) Sending an E-mail message to the intended message  
19           recipient of said summary in accordance with said time schedule;  
20           and

21                f) Enabling downloading of all quarantined E-mail  
22           messages to said intended message recipient according to the  
23           recipient's selection of desired sender identification and/or  
24           subject matter informations within said message summary.

1           2. The method of Claim 1, also including the step of  
2           setting a third numeric filtering threshold above which  
3           substantially all received E-mail messages are blocked from  
4           reaching said intended message recipient.

1           3. The method of Claim 1, also including the step of  
2           deleting from quarantine all E-mail messages not selected for  
3           downloading by said intended message recipient according to said  
4           identified sender and/or subject matter content information  
5           within a predetermined interval of time.

1           4. The method of Claim 1, including the step of bypassing  
2           steps a) through f) and immediately sending to said intended  
3           message recipient substantially all received E-mail messages  
4           received from a pre-identified sender selected by said  
5           recipient.

1           5. The method of Claim 1, including the step of bypassing  
2           steps a) through f) and immediately sending to said intended  
3           message recipient substantially all received E-mail messages  
4           containing pre-identified subject matter information selected by  
5           said recipient.

1           6. The method of Claim 1, including the step of bypassing  
2           steps a) through f) and blocking substantially all received E-

3 mail messages from reaching said intended message recipient from  
4 pre-identified senders.

1 7. The method of Claim 1, including the step of bypassing  
2 steps a) through f) and blocking substantially all received E-  
3 mail messages from reaching said intended message recipient  
4 containing pre-identified subject matter.

1 8. The method of Claim 1, including the step of bypassing  
2 steps a) through f) and blocking substantially all received E-  
3 mail messages from reaching said intended message recipient  
4 containing pre-identified viruses.

1 9. The method of Claim 1, including generating a read-  
2 receipt in response to said intended message recipient's  
3 selection of desired sender identification and/or subject matter  
4 content information according to step f).

1 10. The method of Claim 9, including the step of sending  
2 said generated read-receipt response to bypass said steps a)  
3 through f), and to immediately send said intended message  
4 recipient substantially all E-mail messages received thereafter  
5 from said identified selected sender.

1 11. The method of Claim 9, including the step of sending  
2 said generated read-receipt response to bypass said steps a)

3 through f), and to immediately send said intended message  
4 recipient substantially all E-mail message received thereafter  
5 containing said selected subject matter information.

1 12. The method of Claim 1, including the steps of setting a  
2 third numeric filtering threshold above which substantially all  
3 received E-mail messages are blocked from reaching said intended  
4 message recipient, and deleting from quarantine all E-mail  
5 messages not selected for downloading by said intended message  
6 recipient according to said identified sender and/or subject  
7 matter content information within a predetermined interval of  
8 time.

1 13. The method of Claim 1, also including the steps of  
2 bypassing steps a) through f) and immediately sending to said  
3 intended message recipient substantially all received E-mail  
4 messages received from first pre-identified senders selected by  
5 said recipient, bypassing steps a) through f) and immediately  
6 sending to said intended message recipient substantially all  
7 received E-mail messages containing first pre-identified subject  
8 matter information selected by said recipient, bypassing steps  
9 a) through f) and blocking substantially all received E-mail  
10 messages from reaching said intended message recipient from  
11 second pre-identified senders bypassing steps a) through f) and  
12 blocking substantially all received E-mail messages from  
13 reaching said intended message recipient containing second pre-

14 identified subject matter information, and bypassing steps a)  
15 through f) and blocking substantially all received E-mail  
16 messages from reaching said intended message recipient  
17 containing pre-identified viruses.

1 14. The method of Claim 12, also including the steps of  
2 bypassing steps a) through f) and immediately sending to said  
3 intended message recipient substantially all received E-mail  
4 messages received from first pre-identified senders selected by  
5 said recipient, bypassing steps a) through f) and immediately  
6 sending to said intended message recipient substantially all  
7 received E-mail messages containing first pre-identified subject  
8 matter information selected by said recipient, bypassing steps  
9 a) through f) and blocking substantially all received E-mail  
10 messages from reaching said intended message recipient from  
11 second pre-identified senders, bypassing steps a) through f) and  
12 blocking substantially all received E-mail messages from  
13 reaching said intended message recipient containing second pre-  
14 identified subject matter information, and bypassing steps a)  
15 through f) and blocking substantially all received E-mail  
16 messages from reaching said intended message recipient  
17 containing pre-identified viruses.

1 15. The method of Claim 1, including generating a read-  
2 receipt in response to said intended message recipient's  
3 selection of desired sender identification and/or contained

4       subject matter information according to step f).

1           16. The method of Claim 15, including the step of sending  
2       said generated read-receipt response to bypass said steps a)  
3       through f), and to immediately send said intended message  
4       recipient substantially all E-mail messages received thereafter  
5       from said identified selected sender and/or containing said  
6       subject matter information.

1           17. The method of Claim 12, including generating a read-  
2       receipt in response to said intended message recipient's  
3       selection of desired sender identification and/or contained  
4       subject matter information according to step f).

1           18. The method of Claim 17, including the step of sending  
2       said generated read-receipt response to bypass said steps a)  
3       through f), and to immediately send said intended message  
4       recipient substantially all E-mail messages received thereafter  
5       from said identified selected sender and/or containing said  
6       subject matter information.